

- 18 -

CLAIMS

1. A process for the manufacture of aerated solid shaped detergent compositions comprising the steps of:
  - 5 i) preparation of a melt of the detergent composition to be cast;
  - ii) addition of fatty alcohol to the melt either prior to or after the air or gas has been incorporated into the melt;
  - 10 iii) mixing the melt in a high shear mixer;
  - iv) pouring the melt into a mould;
  - v) cooling the mould;
  - vi) demoulding the solidified-shaped article.
- 15 2. The process of claim 1 wherein the detergent composition comprises:
  - a) 20 % to 60 % by weight of detergent active;
  - b) 0.1 % to 10 % by weight fatty alcohol;
  - 20 c) 30 % to 60 % by weight water and/or polyhydric alcohol.
3. The process of claim 2 wherein the detergent active is soap.
- 25 4. The process of any preceding claim wherein the composition additionally comprises 1 % to 10 % by weight non-soap detergent active.
5. The process of any of any preceding claim wherein the  
30 fatty alcohol comprises 1 % to 9 % by weight.

- 19 -

6. The process of any of claims 2 to 5 wherein the polyhydric alcohol is a mixture of polyethylene glycol with a molecular weight of between 200 and 1500, propylene glycol and sorbitol.

5

7. The process of any of claims 2 to 6 wherein the polyhydric alcohol comprises 20 % to 50 % by weight.

8. The process of any of claims 3 to 7 wherein the soap is formed by saponification.

10

9. The process of claim 8 wherein the polyhydric alcohol is added before saponification.

10. The process of claim 8 wherein the polyhydric alcohol is added both before and after saponification.

15

11. The process of any preceding claim wherein the fatty alcohol comprises 8 to 18 carbon atoms in each acyl or alkyl group.

20

12. The process of any preceding claim wherein the fatty alcohol is selected from cetyl or stearyl alcohols, or mixtures thereof.

25

13. The process of any of any of claims 2 to 12 wherein the aerated solid shaped detergent composition comprises a soap tablet.

**AMENDED CLAIMS**

[received by the International Bureau on 27 August 2004 (27.08.04);  
original claim 1 amended]

**CLAIMS**

1. A process for the manufacture of aerated solid shaped  
detergent compositions comprising the steps of:
  - 5 i) preparation of a melt of the detergent composition  
to be cast;
  - ii) addition of 0.1 % to 10 % fatty alcohol to the melt  
either prior to or after the air or gas has been  
incorporated into the melt;
  - 10 iii) mixing the melt in a high shear mixer;
  - iv) pouring the melt into a mould;
  - v) cooling the mould;
  - vi) demoulding the solidified-shaped article.
- 15 2. The process of claim 1 wherein the detergent composition  
comprises:
  - a) 20 % to 60 % by weight of detergent active;
  - b) 0.1 % to 10 % by weight fatty alcohol;
  - c) 30 % to 60 % by weight water and/or polyhydric  
20 alcohol.
3. The process of claim 2 wherein the detergent active is  
soap.
- 25 4. The process of any preceding claim wherein the  
composition additionally comprises 1 % to 10 % by weight  
non-soap detergent active.
5. The process of any of any preceding claim wherein the  
30 fatty alcohol comprises 1 % to 9 % by weight.